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CENTRAL FAX CENTERAMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
USAN 10/787,142

DEC 12 2005

REMARKS

Claim 24 has been amended based on recitations directed to motivation already present within the claim itself.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Art Rejection

Claims 24-56 are pending in the application and are rejected, apparently over Sonnenberg et al, U.S. Patent 6,673,756 (claims 24-33, which are the only presently pending claims that were previously rejected, were only rejected over Sonnenberg, so it is Applicants' understanding that claims 24-56 are rejected over Sonnenberg, since this is a final rejection).

The Examiner's Position

(1) The Examiner indicates that the prior art of record teaches bars with a variety of colors and layers, and one skilled in the art would be motivated to assemble the layers and colors as claimed, in the absence of a showing to the contrary.

(2) With respect to motivating a child to wash, the Examiner indicates that the courts have held that a reason or motivation to modify the reference may often suggest what the inventor has done, but for a different purpose or to solve a different problem, and the Examiner asserts that it is not necessary that the prior art suggest the combination to achieve the same advantage or result discovered by applicant, citing *In re Linter* and *In re Dillon*.

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Applicants' Response

Turning first to item (2) of the Examiner's position as set forth above, Applicants note initially that in the cases cited by the Examiner, the combination of elements themselves in the claimed invention in the each case was obvious even though the reason for combining them was different than in the prior art.

However, Applicants submit that the prior art does not suggest the combination of elements recited in the present method.

In particular, a key element of the present method is the element of motivating a child to wash or bathe, wherein the child is motivated to wash or bathe with a multicolored cleansing bar in order to see the appearance of the cleansing bar change. Seeing the cleansing bar change appearance is what motivates the child to wash or bathe in the method of claim 24 and thus is an important feature of this element of the present invention.

Applicants submit that the prior art neither teaches nor suggests a motivation from seeing the appearance of the cleansing bar change. Indeed, Sonnenberg is directed to achieving various *scent experiences* (see, e.g., the Abstract of Sonnenberg), not various visual experiences as in the present invention.

Thus, Applicants submit that the prior art does not teach or suggest all the elements of the presently claimed method.

As to item (1) of the Examiner's position as set forth above, Applicants submit that there is no reason why one skilled in the art would be motivated to assemble the

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layers and colors as claimed. Applicants submit that the cleansing bar recited in the present invention is designed to motivate a child to wash or bathe with the cleansing bar. Not any arrangement meets the present invention. Rather, only an arrangement with a changing appearance that motivates a child to wash or bathe meets the present invention. Applicants submit that the prior art neither teaches nor suggests an arrangement with a changing appearance that motivates a child to wash or bathe meets the present invention.

With respect to dependent claim 25 in particular, where a child is motivated to wash or bathe with the multicolored cleansing bar in order to see the cleansing bar change colors from one layer to the next, Applicants submit that the cited art neither teaches nor suggests a method for improving a child's hygiene wherein a child is motivated to wash or bathe with a multicolored cleansing bar in order to see the appearance of the cleansing bar change from one layer to the next.

Thus, Applicants submit that the present invention is not obvious over the cited art, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

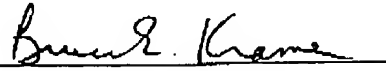
For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention is now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss this application with the undersigned, he is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

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In view of the above, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



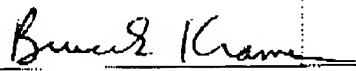
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